



Minutes

DEPARTMENT of PUBLIC UTILITIES
ADMINISTRATION

**Salt Lake City
Public Utilities Advisory Committee
Minutes
September 27, 2018**

The Public Utilities Advisory Committee meeting was held at 7:30 a.m. on September 27, 2018 at the Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities, 1530 South West Temple, Salt Lake City, UT 84115. Committee members present were Colleen Kuhn, Ted Boyer, Roger Player, Sydney Fannesbeck, and Ted Wilson. Salt Lake City Public Utilities employees present were Laura Briefer, Jesse Stewart, Carly Castle, Bernard Mo, Blayde McIntire, Mark Christensen, Jason Brown, and Janine Calfo. Also in attendance were Rusty Vetter, Salt Lake City Attorney's Office; Trevor Lindley, Brown and Caldwell; Kasey Chestnut, Horrocks; Mike DeVries, Metropolitan Water District of Salt Lake and Sandy; Sam Owen, Salt Lake City Council Office; Mayor Jeff Silvestrini, City of Millcreek; Mike Wilson, CRS Engineers; and Keith Larson, Bowen Collins.

Welcome and Introductions

Committee Chair Colleen Kuhn and Public Utilities Director Laura Briefer welcomed the attendees.

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting (August 23, 2018)

Mr. Boyer moved and Mr. Player seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the August 23, 2018 meeting. All members present voted aye.

Open Meeting Training – Rusty Vetter, Deputy City Attorney

Mr. Vetter distributed a hand out that outlined the Utah Open Meetings Act. A copy of the handout is attached. PUAC meeting agenda and minutes are posted on the State's public notice website and the City's PUAC website.

Financial Report – Mark Christensen, Finance Manager

Mark Christensen, Public Utilities Finance Manager, presented the Public Utilities financial report. A copy of Mr. Christensen's presentation is attached. This year, the department has made \$4.5 million more than the same year-to-date last year. The increases for water and sewer rates went into effect on July 1st.

Mr. Wilson asked the definition of a delinquent account. The Department has spent 38.5 percent of the 2017 bond funds. The water reclamation facility rebuild will take a large portion of the

remaining bond money for the year. The Department is maintaining a debt-to-cash ratio of at least 10 percent and is very important for our bond rating.

**Central Wasatch Commission Update and Status –
Jesse Dean, Deputy Director, Central Wasatch Commission**

Ms. Briefer introduced Jesse Dean, Deputy Director of the Central Wasatch Commission. A copy of Mr. Dean’s presentation is attached.

Mr. Dean gave an overview of the formation and goals of the Central Wasatch Commission. Powers of the Central Wasatch Commission are granted by the Interlocal Cooperation Act. Mr. Dean summarized the Central Wasatch National Conservation and Recreation Area (CWNCRA) Act, which is a proposed Federal designation that would protect 80,000 acres of U.S. Forest Service land in the Central Wasatch Mountains.

A land exchange is a component of the CWNCRA Act, protecting key lands in the Big and Little Cottonwood Canyon headwaters from additional development pressures to keep drinking water clean and pure from the source. Mayor Silvestrini mentioned that the exchange is not an equal land-for-land deal. The ski resorts are not getting more land to expand and negotiations are continuing. Ms. Briefer also mentioned that the land bill cements the ski boundaries for each of the four ski resort areas.

The Central Wasatch Commission does not have the authority to be able to take over the jurisdiction of the watershed from Salt Lake City, or the jurisdiction of any other entity that governs the area. There is a public meeting scheduled for October 1st at 4:00 p.m. in Cottonwood Heights, and regular meetings scheduled (see <https://cwc.utah.gov/>).

**Public Utilities Dam Safety Program –
Jason Brown, Chief Engineer, Blayde McIntire, Public Utilities Engineer
and Bernard Mo, Public Utilities Engineer**

Mr. Brown introduced Mr. Mo and Mr. McIntyre who developed the Department’s Dam Asset Management Program (DAMP). Salt Lake City dams include Big Cottonwood Creek (two dams), Parley’s Canyon (two dams), Little Cottonwood Creek (two dams), and the Red Butte Dam and the Ensign Detention Basin.

Big Cottonwood has two high hazard dams. Mr. Wilson asked about how much dam water is used for snow making. Ms. Briefer responded that there is about an 18 percent evaporation rate for snowmaking. These are straight gravity dams. The surface concrete is deteriorating, although the gates were replaced in 2015.

Little Cottonwood Creek dams include Secret and Red Pine dams. Secret is located at Alta and Red Pine is in the wilderness area. At the Red Pine dam, there is a sinkhole on the upstream shell

that appeared in the fall of 2016. The crest of the dam has become uneven from foot traffic by hikers. The Lone Peak wilderness bill allows maintenance in the area. Cecret Dam is an un-zoned earth embankment dam and is an important part of the Alta Ski Lifts snowmaking system. It is considered a moderate hazard dam. There is excessive seepage and is scheduled for repair that should be completed this fall.

Red Butte Dam was recently acquired from the Central Utah Water Conservancy District in 2016. The dam had been rehabilitated in 2006 and was used as to help restore the endangered June Sucker fish..

Parley's Creek dams include Mountain Dell and Little Dell dams. They are a major source of water supply and flood control. They are the highest of the high hazard dams in the state. All water releases from Little Dell must go through Mountain Dell reservoir.

Mr. Wilson mentioned a concern about the recreational uses of Little Dell reservoir. Ms. Briefer mentioned that there are some restrictions in place for certain recreational uses to mitigate risk.

Other Business

Dr. Kuhn asked to discuss the well rehabilitation project on 4th Avenue. There is some controversy on what the facility will look like. Dr. Kuhn wants to make sure that due diligence is done. The 4th Avenue well is located in Memory Grove and is a critical water supply source for Salt Lake City during summer months. It is typically used in the summertime and provides water for fire flows.

One of the key issues driving the well rehabilitation is worker safety. Workers are too near electrical wires when accessing the vault. Bringing the vault above ground will bring a reduced worker safety and water contamination risk.

The building that has been depicted in the public outreach materials is not indicative of what the final building will look like. Removing the fluoride injection module and generator would reduce the footprint of the proposed building. The Department is working to design the building structure to better fit in with the character of the neighborhood.

Ms. Briefer mentioned that the department is taking and evaluating public input related to the project. She urged PUAC members to forward any public concern so that Public Utilities could assure that input is received by the department. Ms. Fannesbeck expressed concern about impacts of the project. She also described the current use of the entrance of City Creek Canyon and the amount of work and care the neighborhood has put into maintenance of the area.

Meeting adjourned at 9:19 a.m.
Next meeting will be held on October 25th at 7:30 a.m.